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Laws and proceedings of the Fairweather Mining District, on Alder Creek, Idaho Ter. June 1868

Whereas certain parties respectively named Henry Edgar, William Fairweather, Harry Rogers, J W Cober William Sweeney and Barney Hughes have for several months been engaged in prospecting for their own benifit and for the benifit of the public in general. and whereas said parties after the consumption of much time and money have discovered what they consider ~~good diggings~~ fair gold diggings and on the strength of this discovery have respectively taken for themselves two claims. Each, one by preemption and one by discovery, Therefore we do resolved

1st That we do cheerfully recognize the right of the parties above named to hold for themselves two claims each as before set forth.

2nd That in addition to the recognition of the right in the first resolution expressed, we bind ourselves to use all honorable ~~means~~ and legal means to support the parties above named in holding their claims purchased by their arduous exertions as prospectors and public benefactors,

H. C. Smith
Wm Porter
[illegible] Wood
John Calaway

Mining claims in the region of the above shall consist of one Hundred feet on one side of the creek and running back the width of the bar, creek claims shall be one Hundred feet in length and including the flat or creek bottom and bed of the stream

Each miner shall be entitled to and may hold by preemption one of each kind of claims

All claims shall be worked and represented once in fifteen days after the time of staking, or shall be forfeited.

All discovery claims shall be safely held whether worked or not.

T. W. Cover, H. Edgar, Wm.Fairweather & Barney Hughes claim 400 ft on Fairweather Bar and 400 ft on Tom's Bar as discovery and pre-emption claims. These claims are held by us by right of original discovery. They were further guaranteed to us at a public meeting held on the way in here from Bannack and our right to them finally sanctioned by law taken May 28th 1863.

Recorded June 17th 1863.

H. Edgar, Recorder.

pr Fergus, Deputy.

Henry Rogers claims the two discovery claims on Rogers Bar, one as a discovery claim and one as a pre-emption claim; Theses claims are held by me by right of original discovery. They were further guaranteed to me at a public meeting held on the way in here from Bannack and my right to them finally guaranteed by law taken May 28th 1863.

Recorded June 27th 1863.

H. Edgar, Recorder.

pr Fergus, Deputy.

Wm. Sweeney claims the discovery claim on Sweeney's Bar and number three (3) below the discovery on Cover's Bar. The first as a discovery the last as a pre-emption claim. These claims are held by me by the same right of original discovery &c as are held the claims of the other discovers. These claims were taken May 28th 1863.

Recorded June 27th 1863.

H. Edgar, Recorder.

pr Fergus, Deputy.

LAWS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE FAIRWEATHER MINING DISTRICT, ON ALDER CREEK, IDAHO TER. JUNE 1863.

WHEREAS certain parties respectively named Henry Edgar, William Fairweather, Harry Rogers, T. W. Coover, William Sweeney and Barney Hughes have for several months been engaged in prospecting for their own benefit and for the benefit of the public in general, and whereas said parties after the consumption of much time and money have discovered what they consider (Good diggings) fair gold diggings and on the strength of this discovery have respectively taken for themselves two claims each, one by preemption and one by discovery, therefore be it resolved.

1st That we do cheerfully recognize the rights of the parties above named to hold for themselves two claims each as above set forth.

2d That in addition to the recogniation of the rights in the first resolution expressed, we bind ourselves to use all honorable and legal means to support the parties above named in holding their claims purchased by their ardious exertions as prospectors and public benefactors.

H. P. A. Smith.

Wm. L. Foster.

J. M. Wood.

John Callaway.

Bar Mining Claims in the region of the above shall consist of one hundred feet on one side of the creek and running back the width of the bar. Creek claims shall be one hundred feet in length and including the flat or creek bottom and bed of the stream.

Each miner shall be entitled to and may hold by preemption one of each kind of claims.

All claims shall be worked and represented once in fifteen

days after the time of staking, or shall be forfeited.

All discovery claims shall be safely held whether worked or not.

At a miners meeting held at the foregoing gold mines on Sundry June 7th 1863 Mr. Coneley was elected President amd W. L. Steele Sec. and the following resolutions were passed.

1st. The centre of the stream to be the line.

2d. All former laws conflicting with the above resolve be hereby declared null and void.

3d. All claims must be represented to-day except Discovery claims.

4th. After to-day claims represented to-day hold good untill first July.

5th. A committe of five to be appointed to draft laws for our protection.

6. That the President appoint the committee.

The President appointed Saml. Livingston. Wm. L. Steele, Judge Bissell. Col. Wood, Dr. Licks.

W. L. Steele, Sec.

Verona, June 12th, 1863.

The adjourned meeting from the 7th met pursuant to adjournment.- The committee on laws reported and their report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The laws or resolutions reported by the committee were adèpted by sections.

G. W. Emerick, Judge Bissell were elected judges of election. Dr. Cox and J. D. Alport were elected tellers.

LAWS REPORTED BY THE COMMITTEE WITH THE AMENDMENTS AS ADOPTED BY THE MEETING.

1st. The name of the District shall be Fairweather.

2d. The bounds of the district shall be all that portion of

country tributary to this creek, to its Junction with a creek coming in from the East some two or three miles below Roger's Bar.

3d. The officers of this district shall be a Presidentm Recorder, judge and sheriff.

4th. The president shall preside at all meetings of the miners of this district and shall call a meeting of the citizens at any time on the written application of any five claim holders, giving notice by posting written notices one day before said meeting in at least three conspicuous places. The Pres. shall also preside as judge at all trials on appeal from the decision given before the judge and shall act as judge in the absence of the judge.

5th. The recorder shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of all meetings and shall record all claims and deeds presented to him for that purpose.

6th. The judge shall have power to try all cases brought before him and shall be governed by the laws of this district and the common law of the land.

7th. The sheriff shall have the same powers as the same officers have in the states.

8th. We hereby reaffirm the proceedings of the two previous meetings and the doings of those meetings shall be part and parcel of these laws.

9th. Every person may hold by preemption and purchase two Creeky bar, hill and lode claims and no more, but no person can preempt more than one of each kind, except they be purchased of an administrator then any person can hold more than that number.

10th. A person working one claim in this district, it shall be considered as representing his whole interest in the district, if said claims are recorded.

11th. Bona fide partners working a claim represent the interests of the entire company.

12th. Discoverers of lode claims shall be entitled to one claim as discovery.

13th Lode claims shall be 100 ft along the Lode and 25ft each side.

14th. Sufficient water ~~ma~~ shall at all times be left in the creek for the purpose of mining said creek.

15th. Any person shall have the right to carry water across the claim of any other person for mining purposes.

16th. No person or company shall be entitled to more than one sluice head of 10 inches of water unless it does not conflict with the interests of any other person.

17th. On and after the first day of July 1863 every person or company shall represent his or their interests by three full days work in each week, except lode claims which may be held as real estate for one year.

18th. In all cases of trial before the President, or judge, either party may call a jury to be summoned by the sheriff. The party calling for the jury to deposit the fees for the same.

19. Majority of right shall in all cases govern the decisions of the court.

20th. For presiding at any trial the judge or president shall receive five dollars and the ordianry fees for all papers.

21st. Recorders fees shall be 50 cts. for preemptions and one dollar for all transfers bills of sale etc.

22. Sheriffs fees the same at the Bannack City fee bill.

23d. No slaughter house to be allowed within 80 rods of the creek.

Art. 3d is amended thus: That all officers shall hold their office for six months or until their successors are elected and installed.

At a meeting of the miners of Fairweather District, called by the Recorder to be held in front of Root___Davis store in Virginia City on Monday August 7th, at 10 o'clock for the purpose of electing a president for said district in place of Mr. Steelem resigned. Mr. Samuel Livingstone was duly elected to fill said office. James Fergus, Pres Prt Tem.

At a meeting of the Miners of Fairweather District held in the cabin of the President this day and in pursuance of a legal call for such meeting in the absence of the President G. G. Bissell was called to the chair and Wm. Lewis elected Secretary. The object of the meeting being to elect a sheriff nominations were called for. J. B. Carew was the only one nominated and on motion being made was elected unanimously.

Virginia City. Sept. 3d, 1863. G. G. Bissell, Chairman.

Entered Sept. 5th 1863, H. Edgar, Recorder,
J. Fergus, deputy.

At a meeting of the miners of Fairweather District (Called by order of the President thereof, to be held at Fairweathers cabin on the 25th day of October 1863) It was unanimously voted that all claims in this district may be laid over and held without working from this date untill the first day of April 1864, and that a

notice of such vote be posted up in several places in the district.

Fairweather District James Fergus Pres. Pro tem.

Oct. 25th 1863.

Copies of the above were posted up in several places in the District in accordance with the above vote.

H. Edgar, Recorder,

J. Fergus, deputy.

Page 3. Record.

T. W. Cover, H. Edgar, Wm. Fairweather ___Barney Hughes claim 400 ft on Fairweather Bar and 400 ft on Tom's Bar as discovery and preemption claims. These claims are held by us by right of original discovery. They were further guaranteed to us at a public meeting held on the way in here from Bannock, and our right to them finally sanctioned by law taken May 28th 1863.

Recorded June 17th 1863. H. Edgar, Recorder,

J. Fergus Deputy.

Page 4. Record.

T. W. Cover, H. Edgar, Wm. Fairweather and Barney Hughes claim the privilege of making a ditch and using the water for mining purposes, commencing at Cover's or Toms discovery and running up till it intersects with Alder Creek. They also claim the privilege of making a ditch and using the water for mining purposes commencing at Fairweather's discovery on Fairweather's Bar and running up untill said ditch intersects Alder Creek. Taken May 23d 1863.

Recorded June 19th 1863. H. Edgar, Recorder,

J. Fergus Deputy.